THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI):

(a) The Left Wing Extremist group continue to indulge in violent depredations in the bordering areas of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) According to available information, the details are as under:—

Left Wing Extremist Violence

(Incidents/Deaths indicated by figures in brackets)

State	1997 Jan.—June	1997 July—December	1998 Jan.—June 25
Andhra Pradesh	444 (115)	419 (119)	360 (101)
Maharashtra	25 (3)	10 (6)	26 (3)
Madhya Pradesh	67 (6)	35 (8)	96 (18)
TOTAL	536 (124)	484 (133)	482 (120)

Foreign Mercenaries in J & K

2312. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched a major offensive recently againsnt foreign mercenaries in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements/failures thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Pak sponsored militant outfits have been making efforts to induct foreign mecenaries in Jammu & Kashmir for militant activities. Security forces and State police have been asked by the State Government and the Unified Headquarters to be vigilant and intensify the anti-militancy operations. As per available information, during the current year (upto May 1998), 40 foreign mercenaries were killed and 7 arrested in J&K.

Insurgency in Assam

2313. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating permanent solution to the present insurgency problems faced by the people of Assam; and

(b) if so, whether by inviting the outfit to the negotiation table or only by deployment of army and paramilitary forces?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Government proposes to take steps on various fronts to find a permanent solution to the present insurgency problem faced by the people of Assam. These include, interalia,

(i) counter insurgency measure to bring law and order situation under control.

(ii) discussion with various political groups like AASU, Bodo groups etc. to resolve political issues.